

THE BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN.

DL. XIX. NO. 20.

BLOOMFIELD, N. J., SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1900.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

REGISTER JOHNSON.

THE POSSIBILITY OF THE REPUBLICAN CONTEST.

of the Popular Town Clerk Brought Him Forward—Seven Candidates Now in the Field.

prospect of a bitter and uncoming fight between the adherents of John P. Drexler and George C. DeCamp for the Republican nomination for the office of County Clerk has been brought to a supposition that a compromise candidate will be selected. In the event of such a possibility, a number of men in various parts of the county holding themselves in readiness to accept the good fortune of Judge Skinner in the convention of 1898.

During the past week the friends of John P. Drexler, the popular Town Clerk of this town, have brought him forward as a compromise candidate upon the warring factions can settle their differences. Johnson's boom has been enthusiastically launched during the past week and he is now one of the seven candidates for the nomination. There are John P. Drexler of Clinton, George C. DeCamp of Clinton, John Klein of Belleville, Augustus C. Klein of Montclair, John Medcraft of Montclair, and Dr. Dill of Newark.

As far as the capabilities of the candidates are concerned, Mr. Johnson stands second to none of them.

He is peculiarly adapted for a position like that of Register and will be able to himself and the public.

Johnson has the interest in the fight between the other and smaller candidates of the campaign have been practically lost sight of in the excitement. A preliminary battle at the primaries, October 1, when the delegates will be elected, will be contested to the death and by the adherents of Drexler and DeCamp, with the others, will be the advantage of anything that can be used to the advantage.

Johnson and other well-known candidates are prominent.

Johnson speaks very favorably of Mr. Johnson as a very acceptable candidate and his exigencies are such that a compromise candidate must be sought out.

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Soft-Coal Nuisance.

The Montclair Town Council had under consideration the question of adopting an ordinance prohibiting the burning of soft coal in railroad locomotives on the railroad in that town. Town Attorney Adams, to whom the matter was referred for a legal opinion, reported as follows:

"The town unquestionably has no power to prevent by ordinance or otherwise the use of soft coal or any other bituminous substance by railroad locomotives. The Council has necessarily the power to pass ordinances to prohibit nuisances, and it may attempt to define nuisances which it desires to prohibit. Its action in this regard would of course be reviewable by the Supreme Court." After quoting an opinion in the case of the State vs. Jersey City the opinion further states:

"If the use of soft coal by railroad locomotives within the town of Montclair can be shown to be clearly detrimental to health, or a public inconvenience within the meaning of the language of the Court, an ordinance prohibiting the use of such a substance would probably be upheld by the Supreme Court, but I do not understand that to be the situation. If the people on any line of any railroad within the town are inconvenienced by the smoke from the locomotives, or feel that they suffer any specific injury thereby, they would individually have a right of action against the railroad company, and I do not believe it would be advisable for the town to attempt to regulate this matter by ordinance."

Across the Line.

The First Ward Republican Club of East Orange, the membership of which is composed of Republicans of the First Ward of East Orange and Watseong, is preparing to take an active part in the Presidential campaign. The club will raise a banner in the course of a few days at the corner of Prospect Street and Dodd Street. A big political rally will take place on that occasion. Brass band, fireworks, speeches, and all the other accessories to a great celebration have been arranged for and the date of the affair will be announced next week. The club was represented at the State Convention of Republican Clubs in Jersey City on Thursday by the following delegates:

County At-Large Joseph W. Ell President of the East Orange City Council William Cardwell, Alfred Chasseaud, Joseph Lee, and Charles Koerber.

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ASSEMBLY NOMINATION.

The Claim of Glen Ridge for Recognition in the Chain of Towns Constituting the Imaginary Eleventh Assembly District.

The big fight that is now going on in the Republican ranks in this county over the selection of a candidate for Register has rather obscured the other important feature of the County Convention work, which is the nomination of candidates for members of Assembly District, the delegates will name a candidate to succeed the Honorable John Klein of Belleville, who has creditably represented the district for the past two years. The delegates who will represent the so-called Eleventh District in the convention are those from Belleville, Bloomfield, Franklin Glen Ridge, and Montclair. An order of rotation has been observed for many years in the selection of the Republican nominee for Assemblyman from the Eleventh District.

The creation of the borough of Glen Ridge in 1895 brought a new municipality into the chain of towns among which the order of rotation has been observed, and the new municipality must ask to be recognized as a link in the chain and presents a candidate for acceptance by its sister towns. Juveniles to the organization of the borough, Mr. Studer of Montclair represented this district in the Assembly. He was followed by Mr. Skinner of Franklin, who was succeeded by Mr. Powers of this town, and he in turn Mr. Klein of Belleville. If Glen Ridge had not entered into the chain and old order of rotation was observed, the nomination would again be conferred upon a Montclair aspirant, and in a natural course of events Glen Ridge would be the last link in the chain, and would have to wait eight years for turn to come around. It has been suggested that a new order of rotation be established, beginning with Glen Ridge. This would set each town on a new basis.

It is for Montclair to take the initiative, and if that town is willing to give Glen Ridge, it is very likely that other towns will agree to the arrangement, but if Montclair is not having a Montclair man

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Ridge this fall, and with that possibility in view the Republicans in the borough are getting ready to present the name of Frank S. Benson to the convention for the nomination for Assemblyman from this district.

It has been rumored that in the event of the recognition of Glen Ridge there would be a division of sentiment in the borough over the selection of a candidate and that H. L. Johnston would make a contest against Mr. Benson for the nomination. This, it is learned, is not so. The borough, it is claimed, will be united and unanimous for Mr. Benson, and it is said that a perfect and harmonious understanding exists between Mr. Johnston and Mr. Benson in regard to the matter. Frank S. Benson is well known to Bloomfielders. He has served as a member of the Township Committee here.

As a pro-bourgeois Mr. Benson entered with characteristic zeal into the contest between Bloomfield and Glen Ridge, but at the same time he preserved his friendliness with the people of the township personally and socially and continued his patronage and support of Bloomfield institutions and manifested an approving interest in all progressive movements for the betterment of the town. Personally there can be no objection raised against Mr. Benson's candidacy by Republicans. He is fearless and aggressive in doing what he thinks is right. His integrity is unimpeachable and he commands the highest respect among his fellow citizens in the borough.

German Theological Seminary.

The German Theological School of Newark, situated at Bloomfield N. J., will be re-opened on Monday, September 24, 1900, at 3:30 P. M. The Rev. William Brewster Green, Jr., D. D., Professor at Princeton, will deliver the opening address on "The Attitude Appropriate to the Part of Students for the Ministry to the Constitution of the Manifold Opposition to Christianity."

Entrance examinations will be held on the Thursday and Friday preceding.

The Rev. Dr. George C. Selbert has returned from Europe in renewed vigor, and has been appointed Chairman of the Faculty; the Rev. Dr. Henry J. Weber will have charge of the correspondence, with the above professors the Rev. Dr. J. W. F. O. Zesch and the Rev. Hermann C. Grubert will be associated as lecturers at the Seminary. The Rev. Carl A. Hook, A. M., has been elected Professor of Classics, and the Rev. Otto H. Dietrich Tutor in the Academic Department; both men will devote their full time to academic instruction. Various clergymen have promised to lecture on successive Thursdays of the new school-year at the Seminary. The school opens with the prospect of receiving quite a number of new students.

Princeton University will open Wednesday.

The new club house of the Glen Ridge Golf Club is now completed. The building is located on Oxford Street, facing Ridgewood Avenue. The interior of the building is finished in cypress, and has one large main room, with locker rooms for men and women adjoining. In the rear there is a kitchen and steward's room.

The golf grounds now comprise seventy-five acres, upon which there are now fifteen holes. The active membership is 150, with a waiting list of twenty. The club is making great preparations for the fall season, and some interesting matches are booked to be played on its links.

The officers of the club are as follows: President, D. H. Standish; Vice-President, E. F. Slayback; Secretary, Edward N. Bristol; Treasurer, B. R. Jacobs; Governing Committee, John W. Stewart, Dr. William E. Broughton, B. R. Jacobs, Thomas K. Benton, C. S. Sherman, E. N. Bristol, D. H. Standish, Kirk Brown and E. F. Slayback.

BASE-BALL.

Watseong Again Defeats Woodside in a Loosely Played Game—A Watseong and Irvington Game Agreed Upon—The Home Club Will Play in Rutherford This Afternoon.

Last Saturday was a dark and dismal day for base-ball playing and the results of the games played in this vicinity were strangely at variance with the predictions of the frequenters of the diamond. The Watseongs played a sort of a mixture of golf, lawn tennis, croquet and base-ball in the game with the Woodside, and some people think that the Watseongs can thank a kindly umpire for pulling them out of a large hole by calling the game while the score favored the visitors, although if the umpire had listened to the importunities of some of the Woodside players the game would have been called when the score was 14 to 5 in favor of the visiting club.

The Woodside imported O. Gorman, a Manhattan College pitcher, from New York especially for the Watseong game last Saturday, and he was knocked out of the box by the visitors, who scored seven runs in the fourth and six in the fifth inning. With a score of 14 to 3 in their favor the Watseongs felt sure that the game was easily theirs, but in the seventh and eighth innings the Woodside got alarmingly close to the Watseongs and jarred the visitors severely. The fielding on both sides was far below the standard and perhaps had a disconcerting effect on the pitchers. The Watseongs made more hits of Hester than any club has made in a game this past summer. By winning Saturday's game the Watseongs are the winners of two out of a series of three games with the Woodside. The following is the score of the game:

WATSEONG		IB.	P.	O.	A.	E.
F. Ferguson, 3b.	1	1	2	3	0	0
L. Thornall, 1b.	1	1	12	0	0	0
J. Hester, c.	2	4	0	3	1	0
F. Ferguson, 2b.	1	2	6	1	2	0
J. Hester, p.	1	0	2	2	0	0
A. Bailey, 1b.	2	3	0	0	0	0
C. Bailey, c.	2	2	4	2	0	0
A. Elmer, 3b.	2	1	1	0	0	0
C. Bailey, p.	2	3	0	0	0	0
O. Hamacher, 1b.	2	3	1	0	0	0
Totals	14	18	24	12	3	0

WOODSIDE		IB.	P.	O.	A.	E.
Fay, 1b.	1	1	1	1	0	0
Comesky, c.	2	4	0	0	1	0
Woodside	1	1	3	2	0	0
Totals	0	0	4	3	1	0

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Dispute Over Coal.

The awarding of the school coal contract in East Orange has given rise to a great deal of talk. Bids for coal for school purposes were opened in August for furnishing 150 or more tons from eight bidders. The bids of Frank Rowe, Fairlie & Wilson, Robert Baldwin, Jr., J. Van Name & Co., and Baldwin & Mills had conformed to the provisions of the advertisement and it was recommended that the contract be divided among these five firms. The Council concurred in the recommendation. Each of the dealers bid to furnish egg coal at \$4.90 and stove and nut coal at \$5.05 each per gross ton. Three other bids were submitted, all agreeing to furnish Wilbur Lehigh coal, and Samuel Wilson was the lowest. His figures were: Egg \$4.50, and stove and nut \$4.65 each.

Samuel Wilson, the disappointed bidder, appeared at the City Council meeting on Monday night and made charges reflecting on some of the Councilmen. Wilson wanted to know why his bid was overlooked, and said that the firms which were awarded the contract must have had an understanding, else they could not have made their bids at exactly similar figures. He hinted at collusion or fraud and said that members of the building committee had received their coal free.

Chairman Cardwell promptly stopped Wilson from talking and warned him not to repeat his statements. Wilson did not reiterate them, but retorted that he would take the matter to the courts.

Councilman Ougheltra reacted the reflections thrown on the members of the committee by Wilson and said his charges were unfounded. The incident was closed by Chairman Cardwell refusing to allow Wilson to speak any further.

Firemen by the Sea.

Chief Engineer of the Fire Department, Bernard F. Higgins, President William L. Johnson, Vice-President Herman Elchorn, Secretary L. B. Harrison and Treasurer T. Howell Johnson of the Bloomfield Firemen's Relief Association and delegates to the State Firemen's Convention held in Atlantic City, returned home on Thursday evening and report a very pleasant time. A correspondent of the CITIZEN who accompanied the delegates

at 6.15 o'clock Tuesday evening. W. B. Corby and H. J. Ashley, life members of the Association, and John Schwab had gone on an earlier train and were at the Hotel Windsor to greet them on their arrival. All of these members are noted for being strictly temperance. After eating a hearty dinner they went for a walk on the board walk along the beach. With the aid of a policeman they found the iron pier. This pier extends 1,500 feet out in the ocean. The delegates from Active Hose Company became frightened and advised everybody to get off of the pier, as he was afraid that an ice-berg would strike it and we would all have a watery grave. But as no ice-bergs had ever been seen in that vicinity his fears were dispelled, and everything went all right until the next morning. When the same delegate was getting out of bed he was sure that he saw an ice-berg, but the other members proved to him that it was the light-house along the coast.

Beldia's Great Race.

The bay mare Beldia is winning laurels for the Oakfield stables on the trotting tracks this season. Beldia won her fourth successive race at the Pennsylvania State Fair in Bethlehem on Tuesday, and captured a \$1,000 prize. Leading horsemen of Pennsylvania, New York and this State were in attendance at the fair. The race which Theodore Maxfield won with Beldia was the "Directors' Stake," and was for leaders of the 2:35 class. Beldia was first in the first, second and fourth heats, and her time was 2:16 1/4, 2:16 1/4 and 2:19 1/4. Fourteen horses participated in the race. In the second race for horses of the 2:22 class Monopole got fourth place.

Accused of Stealing.

Leopold Dinoski of Bay Avenue and Broad Street appeared before Justice Post Sunday afternoon and swore out a warrant for the arrest of Constant Krosock, whom he accused of having broken into a trunk in his room and stolen \$132 and a silver watch. He also charged that Krosock stole a gold watch from the same house. Krosock was arrested in Orange Sunday, and on Monday had a hearing before Justice Post who held him in \$500 bail to await the action of the Grand Jury. The accused denied all knowledge of the thefts. He was formerly organist in St. Valentine's Polish Catholic Church, and it is said that he intended to sail for Europe.

Odorous Excavating.

Licensed by Board of Health, Odorous Excavating orders promptly attended to at reasonable rates. Apply to or address RICHARD MAXWELL, No. 25 Clinton Street, Bloomfield.—Ad.

TAX EXEMPTION.

HALF A MILLION OF PROPERTIES NOT TAXABLE.

Exemptions Equal Ten Per Cent of the Assessable Valuation of the Properties Head the List, with the Schools Next.

The total amount of tax exemption in this town represents valued the amount of \$608,500, a sum about ten per cent. of the total assessable valuations of the town.

The allowance of these exemptions is not a discretionary matter. The Board of Assessment Committee State laws require the assessor to make a certain allowance of exemption for soldiers, soldiers' widows and exempt firemen and some charitable institutions. Public libraries, cemeteries, and the property owned in town by another town and used for municipal purposes is also exempt from taxation.

The churches head the list in the town in the amount of tax exemption. The valuation of church property exempted is \$179,200. The public school property comes next, representing a valuation of \$102,050.

A group of exemptions, consisting of the Job Haines Home for Aged People, the Watseong Free Public Library, Bloomfield Cemetery, Mount Olivet Cemetery, Excelsior Hose Company property, Town Poor House, Reform Church Cemetery and Newark city pline property represent valuations to amount of \$125,000. The valuation of local and county park property exempted is \$43,800. The exemption allowed to soldiers' widows and exempt firemen foot up \$43,800.

In reflecting upon the above for the aggregation of tax exemption, will be observed that a spirit of benevolence and philanthropy seems to be the basis of all tax exemptions. Whether or not it is a wise and beneficent philanthropy is of course an open question, and one on which taxpayers differ widely. There is one thing apparent, taxpayers, and that is that the exemption allowances are constantly growing.

There is room for reform in the policy of tax exemption now in vogue. The liberal and indefinite methods of extending tax exemption privileges should be at once restricted. Municipalities establish a bad precedent in exempting the school and other public properties from taxation, and certainly the property owned by one town within the limits of another ought not to be exempted from taxation by the town in which the property is situated.

It would be better policy for religious corporations to pay the just proportion of taxes on the property which they own rather than seek the benefits of exemption. The churches are supported by voluntary contributions, and it would only need a slight increase in the contributions to meet the tax assessed against the average church property. The tax-paying church, no longer being a ward of the town, would be in a better position to assert itself in public affairs. As the matter stands now the inhabitants of the town of Bloomfield by granting tax exemption to the churches make a contribution equivalent to about \$4,500. The several churches are benefited by this public contribution in proportion to the amount of church property holdings for religious and educational purposes.

The tax exemption conferred on firemen is a privilege that has been much abused on account of the difficulty in making a distinction between firemen who have honorably earned a public reward and those who have performed very little fire service, but have managed to hang on to the fire department until they get their exemption certificate.

As before stated, there is room for great and immediate reform in the matter of tax exemption.

Cycling Accident.

Harry Davis, 17 years old, of Broad Street, was painfully hurt in a collision with a wagon on Monday afternoon. Davis was riding a bicycle rapidly down Bloomfield Avenue, near the city line, when he turned to one side to get out of the way of a furniture wagon coming toward Bloomfield, and crashed into the rear of a coal wagon going south. He was picked up unconscious and carried to the roadside, and taken to the office of Dr. Van Gieson of this town, where he was restored to consciousness and his injuries dressed. His teeth were loosened by the collision, and a gash was cut in his cheek. He was also severely bruised.

Musical Instruction.

Mrs. Bennett-Francis. For terms and further particulars call at or address 85 Race Street, Bloomfield, N. J.—Ad.